THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has entered into Operation, Management and Development Agreement (OMDA) with M/s Delhi International Airport (Private) Limited (DIAL) and M/s Mumbai International Airports (Private) Limited (MIAL) for modernisation of Delhi and Mumbai airports respectively through Public Private Partnership (PPP). These airports has been handed over to the Joint Venture Companies on 3rd May, 2006.

Government of India (GOI) has signed Concession Agreement with M/s Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) on 5.07.2004 and with M/s Hyderabad International Airport Limited (HIAL) on 20.12.2004 for construction of new greenfield airports at Bangalore and Hyderabad respectively through PPP. The new airport at Hyderabad became operational on 23.03.2008.

(b) and (c) Government is actively pursuing with the State Government to ensure better connectivity to the new airport.

Separate runway at Delhi airport

3719. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is aware of growing number of near misses at Delhi Airport caused by two planes being allowed to take off almost simultaneously from the two merging airstrips and then heading towards a collision course over Dwarka;

(b) if so, whether December, 2007 and January, 2008 alone have seen two such incidents with 20 cases being reported in the last one and a half years; and

(c) if so, what are the main proposals Government considers for separate runways for landing and take off at Delhi airport to avoid collision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) There were two incidents of air-proximity on 11th and 17th December, 2007 and none in January, 2008. There were total 5 such cases reported in 2006 and 2007.

(c) Segregated mode of operation, wherein one runway is used for arrivals and other runway for departures, has started since 25th December, 2007 at the IGI Airport, after which no incident of air-proximity has been reported.

Single window clearance system for airports

3720. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to allow airports within 150 kilometre if the existing ones in future under the single window clearance policy, while seeking potential to have more than 500 airports in the country;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the single window clearance policy; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken on single window clearing system policy so far by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Government has approved a new policy for greenfield airport which allows for setting up of a new airport within 150 km of an existing airport on a case to case basis.

The new policy would streamline the process for setting up of new airports. Its salient features are:

(i) Terms and conditions of all the concerned agencies like DGCA, Security, Defence etc. would be prescribed up-front.

(ii) DGCA can clear a proposal if it meets all the prescribed terms and conditions.

(iii) If the proposal is to set up a new airport within an aerial distance of 150 kms from an existing airport, it would be considered by a Steering Committee of the Ministry of Civil Aviation on whose advise, the Ministry can clear it.

(iv) In case the proposal seeks any exemption from any of the prescribed conditions, it would require approval of the Union Cabinet.

(v) All reserved activities to be performed at the airport by central agencies like immigration, customs etc. would be on cost recovery basis.

Negligence of officials at Hyderabad Airport

3721. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether unauthorized chemical substances are allowed to be carried through aircrafts;

(b) if not, how such a chemical was loaded at the Kingfisher aircraft on 4th April, 2008 and the plane had to land in emergency at Hyderabad;

(c) the officials responsible for such a negligence on their part of duty and what action has been taken/is being taken against them; and

(d) how such an irresponsibility would be addressed to amongst the concerned employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) On 3rd April, 2008, no sooner Kingfisher Flight IT-801 took off from the New Hyderabad International Airport (HIA) for Delhi, the pilot detected smoke coming out of the cargo hold of the aircraft. The aircraft made an emergency landing at the HIA.

(c) and (d) The matter is under investigation by BCAS. Further action will be taken after the receipt of the Inquiry Report.

Issue of fake flight test certificates by Carver Academy

3722. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 91 given in the Rajya Sabha on 4th March, 2008 and state what action Government has taken against the Carver Academy in Baramati, Maharashtra which has been issuing fake flight test certificates to aspiring pilots?